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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/730,864	12/06/2000	Glen D. Tindal	CNTW-001/00US	1118

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COOLEY GODWARD LLP
ATTN: PATENT GROUP
11951 FREEDOM DRIVE, SUITE 1700
ONE FREEDOM SQUARE- RESTON TOWN CENTER
RESTON, VA 20190-5061

EXAMINER

ZHONG, CHAD

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2152

DATE MAILED: 07/15/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/730,864

Applicant(s)

TINDAL ET AL.

Examiner

Chad Zhong

Art Unit

2154

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 April 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6,8-11,25-31,34,35 and 38-41 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6,8-11,25-31,34,35 and 38-41 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 4/14/05.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

FINAL ACTION

1. This action is responsive to communications: Amendment, filed on 04/06/2005. This action has been made final.

2. Claims 1-6, 8-11, 25-31, 34-35, 38-41 are presented for examination. In amendment A, filed on 04/06/2005:

claims 1-6, 8-11, 25-31, 34-35, 38-41 are amended.

Applicant's remarks filed 04/06/2005 have been considered but are found moot in view of the new grounds of rejection necessitated by Applicant's amendment.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112, second paragraph

3. Claims 1, 6, 9, 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

a. The following terms lack antecedent basis:

- i. the network device - 6, 9, 10, line 2
- ii. the configuration record, claim 1, line 2-3

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1-5, 8-11, 25-29, 31, 34-35, 38-41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being

unpatentable over Prager et al. (hereinafter Prager), US 5,838,918, in view of official notice.

6. As per claim 1, Prager teaches a computerized method for configuring a network device that includes a local configuration record, wherein the local configuration record is in a format that is understandable to the network device, the method comprising the steps of:

retrieving a central configuration record from a common repository of configuration records, the central configuration record substantially and generically representing the local configuration record of the network device (abstract, lines 7-9 and Col. 11, lines 45-60);

modifying the central configuration record so as to generate a modified central configuration record (abstract, lines 10-14, Col. 10, lines 8-40, wherein the central modified template records are reflected locally);

storing the modified central configuration record in the common repository (Fig 10, item 400, wherein the central modified templates are stored);

generating at least one device-specific command corresponding to the modified central configuration record, wherein the device specific command is in a format that is native to the network device (Col. 11, lines 22-30, lines 45-60, device specific command such as pull operation originates from the end user devices); and

transferring the generated at least one device-specific command to the network device wherein the device specific command includes at least one instruction to change the local configuration record of the router such that a modification in the central configuration record is reflected in the local configuration record; (Col. 10, lines 8-15, lines 33-67; Col. 11, lines 55-60) and

receiving a network condition notification at an event bus, network condition notification indicating that a local configuration record should be modified; (Col. 11, lines 20-30, wherein the notification to modify local templates are done through a push operation from the server side or pull from the client side)

Art Unit: 2152

wherein the step of retrieving the configuration record is initiated in response to the receiving of the network condition notification at the event bus (Col. 11, lines 20-30).

7. Prager does not explicitly teach of router, "Official Notice" is taken that the concept and advantages of providing for management of a router configuration in the network is well known and expected in the art. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to consider Prager's end points as routers and manage the configuration of the router using Prager's method. This would provide for remote configuration and ease of administration by the support staff.

8. As per claim 2, Prager teaches the computerized method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:

searching the common repository for the configuration record (inherent in Col. 12, lines 20-32, wherein the database has records identified by key values, this is used for ease of data retrieval when accessed);

wherein the configuration record is one of a plurality of configuration records stored in the common repository (Col. 12, lines 20-32).

9. As per claim 3, Prager teaches the computerized method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:

publishing a message to an event bus (Col. 11, lines 20-30);

wherein the published message indicates that the retrieved configuration record has been modified (Col. 11, lines 20-30, wherein the newly modified template will be pushed down to the end users).

10. As per claim 4, Prager teaches the computerized method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:

verifying that the modified central configuration record complies with a network policy (Col. 12, line 65 – Col. 13, line 3).

11. As per claim 5, Prager teaches the computerized method of claim 4, further comprising the step of:

publishing a work order to an event bus in response to verifying that the modified central configuration record complies with a network policy (Col. 13, lines 1-25).

12. As per claim 8, Prager teaches the method of claim 1, wherein the step of generating the at least one device-specific command comprises the steps of:

retrieving a device-specific command template, wherein the device-specific command template comprises at least one variable field (Col. 12, lines 20-40, Fig 11, wherein each templates retrieved are device specific and contains plurality of variable fields); and

populating the at least one variable field with data included in the modified central configuration record (Col. 11, lines 45-60; Col. 12, lines 20-33).

13. As per claim 9, Prager teaches the method of claim 8, wherein the retrieved central configuration record indicates that the network device is from a particular manufacturer, and wherein the retrieved device-specific command template is unique to the particular manufacturer (Col. 11, lines 45-60).

14. As per claim 10, Prager teaches the method of claim 8, wherein the retrieved central configuration record indicates that the network device is a particular device type and wherein the retrieved device-specific command template is unique to the particular device type (Col. 11, lines 45-60).

15. As per claim 11, Prager teaches the method of claim 1, wherein the step of retrieving the central configuration record comprises the step of:

retrieving the central configuration record from a distributed common repository (Fig 10, item 400,

Art Unit: 2152

the configuration records or templates are stored within (item 400 Fig 10) template database and the records are retrieved from the database to each end clients, Col. 11, lines 45-60).

16. As per claim 25-29, claims 25-29 are rejected for the same reasons as rejection to claims 1-5 above respectively.

17. As per claim 31, claims 31 is rejected for the same reason as rejection to claim 1 above.

18. As per claim 34-35, claims 34-35 are rejected for the same reasons as rejection to claims 10-11 above.

19. As per claim 38, claim 38 is rejected for the same reason as rejection to combination of claims 1, 8 and 9 above.

20. As per claim 39-41, claims 39-41 are rejected for the same reasons as rejection to claim 4, 1 and 8 respectively.

21. Claims 6, 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Prager et al. (hereinafter Prager), US 5,838,918, in view Dungan et al. (hereinafter Dungan), US 6,363,411

22. As per claim 6, Prager does not explicitly teach the method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:

verifying the successful completion of the step of transferring the generated at least one device-specific command to the network device

Dungan teaches a central repository storing configuration information for local devices, the system will activate business objects in preparation for real time usage, specifically, Dungan teaches:

Art Unit: 2152

verifying the successful completion of the step of transferring the generated at least one device-specific command to the network device (Col. 31, lines 1-7).

It would have been obvious to the person ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Prager and Dungan in order to verify the command has been sent out successfully and to make sure the receiver actually receives the data sent out (Col. 31, lines 1-5)

23. As per claim 30, claim 30 is rejected for the same reasons as rejection to claim 6 above

Conclusion

24. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reined of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The following patents and publications are cited to further show the state of the art with respect to "Dynamic Configuration Of Network Devices To Enable Data Transfers".

Art Unit: 2152

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|------|------------|--------------------|
| i. | US 6098094 | Barnhouse et al. |
| ii. | US 6170011 | McLeod Beck et al. |
| iii. | US 6438594 | Bowman-Amuah |
| iv. | US 6567406 | Skemer |
| v. | US 6615166 | Guheen et al. |

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chad Zhong whose telephone number is (571)272-3946. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:15 to 4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, BURGESS, GLENTON B can be reached on (571)272-3949. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

CZ
June 12, 2005

